

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-4, 6-35 and 37-61 are pending, with claims 1, 13, 29, 39, 46, 52 and 55 being the independent claims. Claims 1-4, 6-13, 15-18, 23-25, 29, 31, 32, 37, 39, 46, 48, 49, 52 and 55 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In the June 29, 2005 Office Action, the specification was objected to based on certain informalities. Specifically, the Examiner stated that the subject matter “configuring an access point based RF network” lacked antecedent basis in the specification. In response to this objection, Applicant has amended claims 1, 13, 29, 39, 46, 52 and 55 to recite “a short range RF network”. Support for this limitation may be found on page 4, lines 2-8 of the specification. In addition, claim 37 has been amended in a manner that is believed to address the specific objection. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification are respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1, 13, 29, 46, 52 and 55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st ¶, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Office did not comprehend completely what exactly Applicants claim as to their possession of the claimed invention at the time of filing.

With respect to this objection, the following is noted. The specification clearly states that “the inventive network includes a plurality of wireless transceiver nodes and one or more host devices” (see pg. 4, lines 6-8 of the specification, for example). The specification further includes a description of how the nodes intercommunicate with each other when a node is in range with another node (see pg. 4, lines 8-15 of the specification). Consequently, nodes, intermediate nodes and other nodes is fully supported by the specification. In any event, Applicants have amended the claims in a manner that is believed to further clarify this concept. For example, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that “transceiver nodes beyond a transmission range of ... at least one host node but within transmission range of one or more intermediate transceiver nodes [which are] accessible to [the] at least one host node and [are] in wireless communication with [the] at least one host node become identified and accessible to [the] at least one host node by relaying through [the] intermediate transceiver nodes”. Independent

claims 13, 29, 46, 52 and 55 have been amended in a similar manner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1, 13 and 46, and dependent claims 2-12, 14-24, 26, 30-34, 38, 43, 44, and 48-51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,795,688 ("*Plasson*"). For the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims of the present application are patentable over the cited references.

The invention is directed to configuring a short range RF network such that a plurality of users with terminal devices (e.g., mobile phones) are enabled to communicate with a host computer or with one another (see pg. 10, lines 15-17 of the specification).

In contrast, *Plasson* relates to a method and system for dynamically configuring a device, adapted to be communicatively coupled in a wireless personal area network, with an attribute corresponding to a characteristic of the device (see col. 5, lines, lines 1-4). That is, *Plasson* is directed to configuring devices, such as a PDA , a PC, etc., based on the current location of the device. However, *Plasson* fails to teach the limitation "whereby transceiver nodes beyond a transmission range of the at least one host node but within transmission range of one or more intermediate transceiver nodes accessible to said at least one host node and in wireless communication with said at least one host node become identified and accessible to said at least one host node by relaying through said intermediate transceiver nodes". Rather, *Plasson* teaches the configuration of the device itself as it is moved from location to location. *Plasson* teaches that the device may be configured to selectively enable and restrict modes of operation of the device (see col. 5, line 66 thru col. 6, line 2). Consequently, independent claims 1, 13 and 46 are patentable and thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) are respectfully requested.

Independent claims 29, 39, 52 and 55, and dependent claims 37, 40-42, 45, 47 and 53-61 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Plasson* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,535,498 ("*Larsson*"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,104,279 ("*Maletsky*"). Dependent claims 27, 28 and 35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Plasson* in view of *Maletsky*.

The Office Action (pg. 13) states:

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Plasson et al. to include a claimed wherein the control logic of each node computes an indication of current load carried by the node; each node dynamically transmits its load indication at least to nodes within its transmission range; and each node dynamically receives and stores load indications received from other nodes ... such as that taught by Larsson et al. in order to allow reactive ad-hoc routing protocols to determine whether more optimal routes exist between the source node and the destination node (as suggested by Larsson et al., column 3, lines 66-68).

With respect to the foregoing, the Examiner relies upon *Maletsky* to address the failure of *Plasson* and *Larsson* to teach the feature “wherein associated with each transceiver is a unique password, provided with each transceiver is a machine-readable tag on which is recorded the transceiver’s unique address and password and associated with the control node is a reader for reading unique addresses and passwords from the tags and storing them in a first node’s transceiver list”.

*Larsson* relates to a method for updating route information in ad hoc networks (see col. 1, lines 18-19). *Maletsky* relates to a method for communicating with a plurality of remote units, where the number and identities of the remote units unknown (see col. 1, lines 7-9). However, *Larsson* and *Maletsky* fail to teach or suggest what *Plasson* lacks, since *Larsson* and *Maletsky*, individually or in combination, fail to teach the limitation directed to transceiver nodes that are beyond the transmission range of control nodes (or a node) but within the transmission range of one or more intermediate nodes accessible to the control node (or the node), as recited in amended independent claims 29, 52 and 55. Moreover, the combination of *Larsson*, *Maletsky* and *Plasson* fails to achieve the invention recited in independent claim 39 that includes the limitations recited in steps (a) thru (k). In view of the foregoing, independent claims 29, 39, 52 and 55 are patentable over *Plasson*, either individually or in combination with *Larsson* and/or *Maletsky*. Consequently, reconsideration and withdrawal of all the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 are in order, and a notice to that effect is requested.

In view of the patentability of independent claims 1, 13, 29, 39, 46, 52 and 55, for the reasons set forth above, dependent claims 2-4, 6-28, 30-35, 37-38, 40-51, 53-54 and 56-61 are all patentable over the prior art.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should be in condition for allowance. Early passage of this case to issue is requested.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,  
COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Stuart", is written over a horizontal line.

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